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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In response to the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, it was determined that Illinois local law enforcement lacked a central organization that could coordinate mutual aid between law enforcement agencies in the event of natural or man-made disasters; and

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WHEREAS, The Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System, known as ILEAS, was created to coordinate mutual aid between law enforcement agencies when a disaster in one jurisdiction exceeds the law enforcement capabilities of that jurisdiction; and

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WHEREAS, ILEAS, pursuant to State statues, has become a consortium of local governments that consists of over 900 Illinois police and sheriff departments, representing nearly 99% of all law enforcement officers in Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, ILEAS is governed by professional police chiefs and sheriffs elected by their peers from regions throughout the State; and

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WHEREAS, ILEAS has repeatedly demonstrated a dedication to providing assistance to local law enforcement agencies in times of need; and

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1           WHEREAS, ILEAS routinely assists local law enforcement  
2 with preparations to respond to disasters through the efficient  
3 administration of over \$60,000,000 in federal grants from the  
4 Department of Homeland Security; and

5           WHEREAS, ILEAS is a gubernatorial appointee to the Illinois  
6 Terrorism Task Force, charged with representing local law  
7 enforcement in regards to Homeland Security; and

8           WHEREAS, ILEAS has developed a national reputation for  
9 professionalism through the Illinois response to Hurricanes  
10 Katrina and Rita and the development of special teams, whose  
11 purpose is to respond in times of need; and

12           WHEREAS, This national reputation led the Pittsburgh  
13 Police Department to immediately call ILEAS for assistance when  
14 it first learned that Pittsburgh was to host the G20 Economic  
15 Summit; and

16           WHEREAS, ILEAS successfully organized 60 local law  
17 enforcement agencies to send 150 police officers from the ILEAS  
18 Mobile Field Force teams to Pittsburgh, where they actively  
19 assisted the Pittsburgh Police Department in maintaining  
20 security for the G20 Economic Summit; and

1           WHEREAS, The ILEAS model of inter-governmental cooperation  
2 has successfully demonstrated that cooperation can lead to  
3 great accomplishments and better serve the interests of the  
4 citizens of Illinois and the nation; therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize the  
7 Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System as a consortium of local  
8 governments, whose interest is the protection of the citizens  
9 of Illinois in times of crisis; and be it further

10           RESOLVED, That we further recognize the great efforts put  
11 forth by the ILEAS membership in creating a successful system  
12 of mutual aid to provide assistance when called upon by all law  
13 enforcement agencies in Illinois.